

**Andrew Jackson to Rachel Donelson Jackson,
December 7, 1823, from Correspondence of Andrew
Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.**

TO MRS. JACKSON.

Washington, December 7, 1823.

My Love, I wrote you on my arival here on the morning of the 3rd instant. The weather has continued good and my health improving from rest, altho I cannot say that of this I have had much—there being a continued scene of vissits to me, and of course on my part a return of them. Today being sunday I have spent at Church where I was edified with a very sensible discourse from a young presbeterian preacher.

Since my arival many inquiries have been made after your health by your acquaintances here, and I am charged by Mrs Wilson and Doctor Tucker, when I write, to present you with their respectfull compliments and also by Mrs Watson, Miss Jones, and all the family. I have taken lodgings at Mr. oneals.¹ Major Eaton and Call make my mess, we are private and comfortably accomodated in a worthy family. how my constitution may bear the winter should it prove very inclement I cannot say. I shall endeavour to take care of myself. I had a hope by this days mail to have recd a letter from you or Capt A. J. Donelson—in this I have been disappointed, still hope I shall receive one soon. This separation has been more severe to me than any other, it being one that my mind was not prepared for, nor can I see any necessity for—still my country did, and no alternative was left for me but to obay. If providence permits us again to unite, we must travel together, and live together whilst permitted to remain Tennants here below. before I leave this I shall engage rooms for your reception next fall. I shall expect you to write me as often as you can. It will be pleasing

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to me to receive from Mr Parsons a statement of the amount of my crop as soon as it is housed, and say to Mr Donelson I shall expect him to write me very often.

1 Since 1805 William O'Neal had kept the "Franklin House", on the north side of I Street (or Pennsylvania Avenue) just east of Twenty-first Street.

I would be delighted to receive a letter from our son, little Hutchings, and even Lyncoya. The latter I would like to exhibit to Mr Monroe and the Secretary of War, as I mean to try to have him recd. at the military school, as early as I can, I shall examine the college here with a view if I like it, and its moral Government, to bring they two Andrews here next fall and leave them here. I am told it is superintended by a worthy Baptist Clergyman of great ability.² When you see Parson Campbell present me affectionately to him and family also to Mr Dobbs. Should my friend parson Hodge have returned present me kindly to him, say to Colo Butler I shall write him as early as I can have an interview with Mr Monroe, which will be as soon as the days of ceremony are over. There is nothing done here but vissitting and *carding each other*—you know how much I was disgusted with Those scenes when you and I were here, it has increased instead diminishing.

2 Rev. Dr. William Staughton, first president (1822–1827) of Columbian College, now George Washington University.

present me to Capt John Donelson family and all my good neighbours affectionately, and accept my continued prays for your health and that of my little Andrews. present me to Capt A. J. Donelson and believe me your

affectionate Husband